—Army trial

(FROM PAGE ONE)

in Howard County, she said, he volunteered for the Armed Services because he wanted his military obligation "over with."

But in basic training, he met veterans of Vietnam who filled his head with accounts of Vietnamese wives and children being slaughtered and other horrors of war.

Mrs. Tilghman remarked, he was not even sure he would be sent to Nam but the soldier's stories bothered him too much. He deserted.

• •

She recalled her husband managed to avoid arrest for over four years, had met and married her and fathered two children. David was born while his father was in jail awaiting his court-martial.

Pvt. Tilghman was gainfully employed with a firm at Curtis Bay until April 18.

That date, Mrs. Tilghman declared, "I will remember forever."

She explained five FBI agents came that day and searched the apartment, read his private papers and left.

She said, she immediately called her husband at work and he in turn immediately went to the FBI office downtown and gave himself up.

Since April 18, she and her children have only seen Pvt. Tilghman at his trial, Friday, July 21, and on Sunday and holidays (visiting days).

Mrs. Tilghman proclaimed she has never missed a visiting day. She even travelled down to Ft. Meade five days after little David was born.

Pvt. Tilghman faced two years in jail and a dishonorable discharge for the charge of desertion.

Defended by noted civilian lawyer Luther C. West and judged by a five-man military court headed by a black colonel and a WAC major, the private received nine months in the stockade and a bad conduct discharge after his "guilty" plea.

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Mr. West is presently seeking dismissal of the sentence.

Mrs. Tilghman asserted, "What burns me is he has been down there three months already and it doesn't count (toward completing his sentence)."

The whole Army court procedure, she concluded, seems mostly to "punish his family."

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By the way...

by Joe Black

History has it that all Black people picked cotton, sang spirituals, had babies, and got drunk on Saturday night. Right?

Wrong.

How about Phyllis Wheatley? Booker T. Washington? Dr. Charles Drew? These are just a few of the names we all know that have contributed greatly to American history.

History can, is, and must repeat itself if, as Dr. Martin Luther King said, "I have a dream that one day my children will be judged by the content of their character, rather than by the color of their skin."

Sure. Racism is rampant today. Rampant on both sides, Black and white. There's no question about that. But the big question is, how do we get it together?

Getting it together can be accomplished in part by eliminating one of the great danger areas. Ignorance. So how do we eliminate ignorance? Through education. That's how.

Even though today's school system may not yet be totally relevant to our culture, that's no reason —even in the dedication to unity—to drop out. Dropouts aren't rebels. They simply can't stick with it. They can't stand the pressures. So, instead of being drop-outs, they become cop-outs.

But no matter how strongly you may believe, you can't cop your way out of poverty. "We shall overcome" takes initiative. Then ambition. And always, work. The attitude starts in the schoolroom. And the rewards scale upwards from there.

Education is part of what Black power is all about. Without it, Black power becomes Black powerless.

Joe Black
Vice President
The Greyhound Corporation

—Hot weather

(FROM PAGE ONE)

prime hurricane time for our area is August and September.

In a Hurricane Preparedness Conference held July 26 Hurricane Agnes was the main topic of discussion. Agnes broke 24 flood records and was the nation's most natural disaster.

The conference revealed facts about the National Warning Plan; hurricane warnings, watches and bulletins; storm surge and inland flooding; emergency agencies and disaster relief.

The National Weather Service has instituted 3 new plans to increase the public notification time of flash floods. The plans are: a telephone answering service, a self-help forecasting system and installation of a mechanical flash flood system.

Reporter's Note: The AFRO did not see any black employees during the visit to the Weather Bureau on Tuesday.

On Thursday, the AFRO asked Clarence W. Reynolds, meteorologist in charge of the Friendship office about the employment picture.

Here are excerpts of that interview:

Q — I wanted to know howmany peopley oue employ full-time there? I only saw three and they were all meteorologists.

A — Here is the breakdown: Mr. Davis and I and Mr. Levy are meteorologists. Mr. Levy is working with a forecaster weather service specialist at this time. In answer to your question, there are 8 weather service specialists and Mr. Davis is the principal assistant. Mr. Levy and myself are meterologists. Then, we have an electronics technician and a field aide. Their business is keeping instruments.

Q — You are a federal agency is that correct?

A — The weather service is a federal agency. We have some participation from the State of Md.

Q — Are there any other vacancies in the National Weather Service?

A — No, we've been under, I guess you'd say a continuous squeeze, last August in particular. We have the full complement. That is all we're allowed at the moment.

Q — One other question, I didn't see any black people working there. Are there any workinga ta il?

A — Oh yes. I don't think — Well, let's see, Amet Figueroa is probably Puerto Rican.

Q — Are there any more? a 8 that's personal busi-

A — That's personal busi- we're not allowed to answer. So don't ask because I can't answer.

Q — There are some in different capacities there?

A — There is Amet Figueroa who is considered black but there are none at this time.

Q — Were there ever any black people working there?

A — There have been many in the Weather Service, there have been none here, I think in the last several years. This is something you don't keep track of and you are directed not to inquire. Whatever any man considers himself to be is his own business.

Q — One more question. There have never been any black meterologist there?

A — I guess, I really don't know. There have not been any in several years. Just like any government agency, the people tend to move although here I would think is slower than most. Most of the people tend to stay here awhile. The information about the pople working here is really not known although a report is made about once a year but it's not kept in the files. Mr. Figueroa, as I said, is from Puerto Rico and I don't know how he would be classed. It was part of my instructions that I don't ask.

• • •

Q — Well, how would one apply to become a meterologist?

A — You apply through the Civil Service Commission and like any regular government job the hiring is done through an examination.

Q — Could you give me the average annual pay?

A — That figure approximates $11,700.

Q — At Friendship?

A — No, across the country.

Q — Is this an equal opportunity employer?

A — Yes it is.

Q — You have had no blacks as far as you remember?

A — As I said I don't know how you would class Mr. Figueroa if he considers himself a minority group then he would be one. We no longer ask this question.

Q — Do you know where I can apply to get these figures? I might want to do a follow-up on the story?

A — Sure, either to me with time to service t for the detailed figures. This would be available nationally at the National Weather Service Headquarters, Eastern Region Headquarters, 585 Stewart Avenue, Garden City, New York 11530.

Mother, son free in assault case

A 57-year-old North Baltimore matron who spent the evening in police custody instead of celebrating her 30th wedding anniversary June 8 was acquitted and discharged of assault charges Wednesday.

Mrs. Helen Sykes, 4900 block Midwood Ave., and her son, Napoleon, were freed by Judge Carl Bucharch, in a crowded North District court after hearing testimony from six witnesses and party guests.

However, a second son Herman Sykes, was found guilty of disorderly conduct and resisting arrest. Mr. Sykes gave notice of appeal.

All were charged with interfearing with police work, resisting arrest and assaulting police officers.

Prosecutor Marshall Shure stated after violating traffic rules Herman refused to submit to arrest, July 8.

He stated Mr. Sykes was chased in police car more than 12 blocks and when he finally stopped in front of his parents home in the 4900 block Midwood Ave., he was aided by other members of the Sykes family to assault officer William G. Roland of the Northern District.

But the prosecution's statement was rebutted by witness who stated the Sykeses assaulted no officer. There were more than 20 police cars and 20 officers, they stated.

Mrs. Rebecca Brandon and her daughter, Donna, neighbors of the Sykeses stated police twisted the hands of Sykes and handcuffed them. They said Herman was dragged out of his car and kicked several times by the police.

Miss Brenda Rich, 1900 block Eutaw Place, a wedding anniversary guest, said with his hands up Napoleon was brutalized and kicked by the police.

Both Thomas Lee and Norman Williams of 5000 block Midwood Ave., collaborated the statements by witnesses.

Woman, 57, found dead in room

Funeral services for Mrs. Anita Taska, 3200 block Auchentoroly Terrace, will be held at the Kenneth Law Funeral Home in the 3600 block Park Heights Ave., at noon Saturday.

Burial will be in the Woodlawn Cemetery.

Police records show the decomposed body of the 57-year-old woman was found in her second floor apartment Monday night. She was pronounced dead at 10:30 p.m., police said.

Police said she was found in the bedroom bent over her bed.

A medical examiner's spokesman told the AFRO Wednesday Mrs. Taska died of electric shock.

Neighbors stated her death was noticed when there was an unusual odor coming from her apartment.

Police say they suspect no foul play.

Mrs. Anita Diggs, 3100 block Ferndale Ave., told police she last saw her mother July 23 when she took her home after a party in the 5300 block Denmore Ave.

In addition to her daughter, Mrs. Taska is survived by her husband, Vernon Taska; one other daughter, Mrs. Joan Campbell; one sister, Octovia Braston; two nephews, Police Officer

Man, 52, found dead in bathroom

Homicide detectives are still investigating the death of Roney Smith, 52, who was found in a pool of blood in the bathroom of an apartment in the 2100 block Mt. Royal Terrace about 5:30 p.m. Monday.

Mr. Smith died of knife wounds of the chest, back and chin, police said.

A resident told police the victim had no known relative and that the last time he was seen was about three weeks ago.

Police records claim investigation of the immediate area of the crime showed signs of apparent struggle in the kitchen area adjacent to the bathroom.

City morgue officials state the body of the victim still remains unclaimed.

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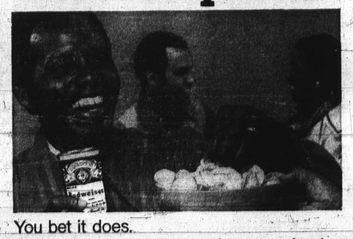

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Armco rebuffs order for fair promotions

The Armco Steel Corporation is mounting a challenge to the authority of the state Human Relations Commission.

After a hearing this winter, commissioners issued an order calling for the promotion of 3 black workers a year to supervisor level until 20 per cent are supervisors, for a management training program and for a supervisor selection committee.

Armco did not make the changes, and the Commission sought an injunction through the courts to make Armco make changes.

Circuit Court Judge Meyer Cardin on July 7 ordered Armco to say why he should not issue an injunction.

On the last day given to show-cause, Monday, July 24, Armco lawyers filed papers challenging the Court's power to issue an injunction without giving Armco another hearing.

Commission General Counsel Philip Tierney told the AFRO Armco's response means Armco does not recognize the Commission tribunal procedure and does not want any injunction issued solely from the findings of the Commission.

The Commission feels, stated Mr. Tierney, "Armco waived its right to an appeal" when it failed to appeal within the 30-day period after the final Commission order was released on May 1.

He explained the Commission is operating under the theory that the courts should issue an injunction as the Commission orders, "if there is nothing manifestly wrong with the order itself."

Armco Steel is represented by Robert Scott of the D.C. law firm of Gall, Lane, Powell and Kilcullen.

Missing girl returns home unharmed

Baltimore was being thoroughly searched Monday for a missing teenaged girl when the 14-year-old called relatives to say she was on her way home.

The New Jersey teenager, visiting Baltimore relatives, was last seen leaving a downtown apartment building Saturday afternoon.

After police were contacted Sunday morning, they began an intense search by helicopter and a foot patrol of Leakin Park and nearby rivers in case foul play was involved.

The unharmed teenager appeared Monday saying she had been visiting friends.

Like many other teenagers nationwide, the teen explained, "I just wanted to do my thing."

The intense search was called off.

Edmondson High student dies from heat

Funeral services were held Thursday for Gary Idel Benjamin, 17, 6700 block Wilmont Drive.

Young Benjamin died last Saturday. His mother Mrs. Gloria Habersham, stated, "He had asthma. After coming in from the heat he had an attack."

He was an 11th grade student at Edmondson High School. After graduating from Edmondson, he had planned on going to Community College of Baltimore.

For three years, he had worked at the Greenspring Inn Restaurant. In addition to his mother, he is survived by his father, Idell Benjamin, three sisters, and grandparents. He is buried in the Baltimore Cem-

Back Page

Man fails to appear in court

Nathaniel E. Carter, 22, of the 2300 block of W. Fayette St., failed to appear before Judge Albert Clark of part 3 of the Criminal Court Wednesday on charges of assault (2 counts), disorderly conduct and resisting arrest.

He was released on his own recognizance on December 13, 1971 on these charges.

The charges were brought against him after two police officers charged that he attacked them. The two officers were Frederick Wroblewski and Walter Eggert of the Western District.

It was reported that young Carter struck the officers with his fist.

Luther West, the attorney for the defense, appeared to report that the defendant is probably in jail in Trenton, New Jersey.

After the hearing, Judge Clark issued a bench warrant for his arrest.

AFTER LABOR DAY

Register to vote in library branches

The head of the Board of Election Supervisors, John Wednesday the sites of 42 supplementary voter registration centers and said approval of the sites was solely a Board decision.

He claimed, no person "nudged" the Board to do so, in particular not the Governor in response to his recent meeting with black elected officials over voter registration.

Mr. Donohue did not deny charges of the Citizens Committee for Voter Registration that the poorest percentage of people registered to vote is in poor and black neighborhoods but stated the Board would not follow the recommendations of the Citizens Committee.

• • •

The Committee called for mobile voter registration centers as well as door-to-door registration.

Mr. Donohue remarked that type of registration "would not uphold the dignity of voter registration."

The publication of set sign-up locations, he claimed, would offer convenience, dignity and orderliness, and he added set locations "adhere to the law as presently written."

He said the named sites, including all 27 Enoch Pratt Library branches, are located fairly throughout the city.

As to ending low levels of poor and black registration, Mr. Donohue asserted, "If poor and black peoples are encouraged to register, they will come out." He leaves the burden of encouragement to local civic organizations.

Also at the Wednesday meeting, Mr. Donohue introduced members of a new committee designed to find people willing to volunteer as voter registrars for the upcoming sign-up drive

The committee is called the Volunteer Recruitment Committee for Voter registration.

Starting Aug. 17 for two weeks, volunteer registrars will be trained on sign-up procedures. Schooling will the Board's office in the People's Court Building.

The library supplemental registration sites are to be open 2 to 8 p.m. on five consecutive Thursdays, Aug. 17, 24, 31, Sept. 7, 14, 21, 28 and Oct. 5.

Besides libraries, five schools and five shopping centers will host voter registrars.

Other locations include the Peoples Court Election Supervisors office, Green Hampden Methodist Church, Memorial Stadium, W.C.B.M. and the Baltimore City Fair.

Fifteen as yet unannounced Saturday registration locations are scheduled to be open from Sept. 9 through Oct. 7.

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